

WHALE BRANCH MIDDLE

2009 Trask Parkway
Seabrook, South Carolina 29940

GRADES 6-8 Middle School

ENROLLMENT 456 Students

PRINCIPAL Dr. Randall L. Wall, Acting Principal 843-466-3000

SUPERINTENDENT Herman K. Gaither 843-322-2300

BOARD CHAIR Earl Campbell 843-322-2356

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2004

ABSOLUTE RATING:

BELOW AVERAGE

Absolute Ratings of Middle Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
0	0	3	35	4

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

AVERAGE

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

NO

This school met 18 out of 21 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups and student attendance rate.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:

WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM

WWW.SCEOC.ORG

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Unsatisfactory	Below Average	N/A
2002	Unsatisfactory	Average	N/A
2003	Below Average	Below Average	No
2004	Below Average	Average	No

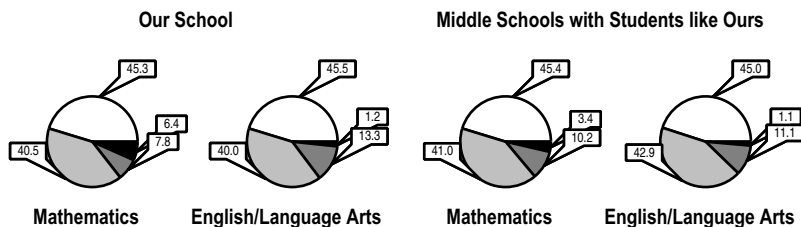
DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS





- Excellent - District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

PERCENT OF STUDENT RECORDS MATCHED FOR PURPOSES OF COMPUTING IMPROVEMENT RATING

Percent of students tested in 2003-04 whose 2002-03 test scores were located.

93.7%

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT)**Definition of Critical Terms**

	Advanced	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	Proficient	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	Basic	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	Below Basic	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

NOTE: Science and social studies are to be included in the 2005 school report card.

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	Enrollment 1 st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced (adj.)	Performance Objective Met	Participation Objective Met
English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 17.6%									
All Students	447	99.6	45.4	40.1	13.3	1.2	19.2	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	234	99.2	47.9	40.2	11.0	0.9	16.4		
Female	213	100.0	42.6	40.1	15.8	1.5	22.3		
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	63	98.4	27.8	51.9	18.5	1.9	27.8	Yes	Yes
African-American	376	99.7	48.5	38.8	12.2	0.6	17.2	Yes	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not Disabled	381	99.7	40.6	42.5	15.6	1.4	22.2		
Disabled	66	98.5	73.8	26.2	0.0	0.0	1.6	No	Yes
Migrant Status									
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Non-migrant	447	99.6	45.4	40.1	13.3	1.2	19.2		
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	446	99.6	45.2	40.2	13.3	1.2	19.3		
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	364	99.7	49.4	38.6	11.4	0.6	15.9	No	Yes
Full-pay meals	83	98.8	24.6	47.8	23.2	4.3	36.2		

Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 15.5%									
All Students	447	99.6	45.1	40.6	7.8	6.4	25.2	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	234	99.2	47.0	38.8	7.8	6.4	26.0		
Female	213	100.0	43.1	42.6	7.9	6.4	24.3		
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	63	98.4	27.8	48.1	13.0	11.1	40.7	Yes	Yes
African American	376	99.7	48.2	39.6	6.9	5.3	21.9	Yes	Yes
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	7	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not Disabled	381	99.7	37.2	46.1	9.2	7.5	29.4		
Disabled	66	98.5	91.8	8.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	No	Yes
Migrant Status									
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Non-migrant	447	99.6	45.1	40.6	7.8	6.4	25.2		
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	446	99.6	45.0	40.7	7.9	6.4	25.2		
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	364	99.7	48.3	38.9	7.7	5.1	22.2	Yes	Yes
Full-pay meals	83	98.8	29.0	49.3	8.7	13.0	40.6		

DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specifies that the statewide target is met for All Students and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GRADE LEVEL

		<i>Enrollment 1st Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced</i>
English/Language Arts								
2003	Grade 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	163	98.2	53.5	34.7	11.8	N/A	11.8
	Grade 7	149	97.3	48.1	44.4	7.5	N/A	7.5
	Grade 8	187	98.4	55.2	36.0	8.7	N/A	8.7
2004	Grade 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	168	99.4	50.6	35.2	12.3	1.9	14.2
	Grade 7	150	100.0	39.7	41.8	17.1	1.4	18.5
	Grade 8	129	99.2	44.8	43.2	12.0	N/A	12.0

Mathematics								
2003	Grade 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	163	100.0	54.2	34.0	8.3	3.5	11.8
	Grade 7	149	98.0	51.5	36.6	8.2	3.7	11.9
	Grade 8	187	99.5	61.8	33.5	4.0	0.6	4.6
2004	Grade 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 6	168	99.4	48.8	37.7	8.0	5.6	13.6
	Grade 7	150	100.0	39.0	45.9	6.2	8.9	15.1
	Grade 8	129	99.2	47.2	38.4	9.6	4.8	14.4

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable **N/AV** Not Available **N/C** Not Collected **N/R** Not Reported **I/S** Insufficient Sample

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n= 456)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	7.8%	Down from 14.0%	10.0%	14.6%
Retention rate	8.5%	Up from 0.4%	4.5%	3.0%
Attendance rate	94.8%	No change	95.2%	95.9%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	10.1%		8.3%	5.7%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (Math) off grade level	9.0%		8.1%	5.3%
Eligible for gifted and talented	10.5%	Up from 10.1%	8.2%	14.3%
On academic plans	N/AV	N/AV	N/A	N/AV
On academic probation	N/AV	N/AV	N/A	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	14.7%	Up from 13.0%	14.9%	13.9%
Older than usual for grade	5.3%	Up from 3.9%	6.8%	4.2%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	3.9%	Down from 8.8%	1.2%	0.9%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n= 44)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	47.7%	Up from 46.2%	50.7%	48.7%
Continuing contract teachers	61.4%	Down from 69.2%	73.8%	81.7%
Highly qualified teachers**	86.2%	N/A	88.6%	90.4%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	17.1%		9.1%	5.3%
Teachers returning from previous year	72.7%	Down from 74.5%	79.4%	85.1%
Teacher attendance rate	91.3%	Down from 92.3%	94.4%	94.8%
Average teacher salary	\$39,838	Down 2.1%	\$39,691	\$40,566
Prof. development days/teacher	10.1 days	Down from 11.2 days	11.8 days	11.0 days
School				
Principal's years at school	5.0	Up from 4.0	3.0	3.3
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	13.9 to 1	Down from 16.4 to 1	18.8 to 1	21.3 to 1
Prime instructional time	83.6%	Down from 84.5%	88.4%	89.3%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$7,922	Up 2.4%	\$6,550	\$5,821
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	57.3%	Up from 47.1%	59.2%	61.8%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	Down from Excellent	Good	Good
Parents attending conferences	99.0%	Down from 99.8%	87.5%	95.0%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Good	N/A	Good	Good
* Prior year audited financial data are reported.				
	Our District		State	
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools**	89.9%		92.0%	
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools**	88.1%		91.1%	
	State Objective		Met State Objective	
Highly qualified teachers in this school**	65.0%		Yes	
Student attendance in this school	95.3%		No	

**NOTE: The verification process was not completed for the year reported; therefore the count of highly qualified teachers may not be accurate.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Whale Branch Middle School is a challenging, engaging and safe school where every child can have a successful future. Our mission is to challenge all students to achieve high academic standards, as mandated by the "No Child Left Behind" legislation.

In the 2004 school year, our school improved its Report Card rating a full grade. Our teachers have continued to focus on improving student performance in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies. Teachers also received extensive professional development in designing standards-based curriculum using power standards, analyzing data, teaching with technology, and teaching writing in the content area. We also implemented a new reading program for struggling readers and continued to expand our school-wide writing program. Teachers also increased the capacity of students to read daily and to improve their performance on Accelerated Reader Tests. Two eighth grade students earned the "classic" reading level award for scoring the highest on the Accelerated Reader program. In addition, the technology of the Successmaker computer lab also increased reading and math scores. Student achievement also improved as a result of several after-school programs such as the 21st Century Learning Center grant, the Homework Center grant, and the Communities United for Youth After-School Program. We are continuing to make gains in students' reading, writing and math skills.

We are very proud of our students' accomplishments this year. WBMS earned 9th place in the SC Science Olympiad Competition (Division B), with two 6th grade students earning 1st place for building a trebuchet, four 7th grade students were accepted into the 2004 Clemson University "Project Wise" summer science program, and three 8th grade students were accepted in the SC Junior Scholars Program. Other student accomplishments included: WBMS technology team competed in the SC Robotics Competition and placed in the top 25% out of 75 schools, also earning 3rd place in robotics design; 99% of 8th grade students enrolled in Algebra 1 scored 80 or above on the SC End-of-Course Test; two 8th grade students were selected for the 2004 SC Regions Band; WBMS Track Team won first place (2nd year) in the District Track & Field Championship; WBMS Chess Team won 3rd place in the Beaufort County Chess Tournament; a WBMS community service project raised \$1000 for refugees in Tanzania; 25 students were trained in diversity training to become peer mediators; WBMS Double-Dutch team won 2nd place in the state-wide Double-Dutch competition; and 80% of all students completed PACT intersession packets and earned a celebration and free trip to Hunting Island State Park.

Community involvement is a strong asset to our school. Our students and teachers have benefited from a volunteer program, collaboration with the Department of Health and Environmental Control, the Beaufort-Jasper-Hampton Comprehensive Health Center, Clemson Extension, the Technical College of the Lowcountry, the Department of Natural Resources, the Waddell Mariculture Center, Piggly Wiggly Parish Store, Lowe's of Beaufort, the Sheldon Township Community Partnership Initiative, among other organizations. Whale Branch Middle School is an example of a successful community school "Where Bright Minds Soar."

Rosalyn Browne, Principal Wilfred Europe, SIC Co-Chairperson
Portia Holmes, SIC Co-Chairperson

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	36	102	40
Percent satisfied with learning environment	50.0%	82.4%	89.7%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	74.3%	81.4%	84.2%
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	30.6%	77.2%	55.6%

*Only students at the highest middle school grade level at this school and their parents were included.